CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 2. The housing of claim 1 further comprising a gasket disposed around the tongue
 element.
- The housing of claim 1 wherein the perimeter portion and cover are substantiallyplanar.
- 1 4. The housing of claim 1 wherein the tongue portion has a substantially "T"-shaped cross section.

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A housing for a portable handheld electronic reader/scanner comprising:

a body portion having an electronics enclosure portion and a handle portion, said

- 3 electronics enclosure portion having an aperture surrounded by a perimeter portion;
- a substantially planar sean face adapted to cover said aperture;
- one of the scan face and perimeter portion having a groove and the other having a
- 6 projecting tongue element for mating engagement with the groove.
- 1 7. The housing of claim 6 further comprising an end cap coupled to the handle
- 2 portion.

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- 1 8. The housing of claim 6 wherein the handle portion comprises a battery
- 2 compartment.
- 1 9. The housing of claim 6 further comprising a gasket disposed around the tongue
- 2 element.
- 1 10. The housing of claim 7 further comprising a gasket disposed around the end cap.

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- 11. The housing of claim 6 wherein the tongue portion has a substantially "T"-shaped
- 2 cross section.
- 1 12. The housing of claim 6 wherein the housing and cover are molded from a
- 2 thermoplastic elastomer.
 - 13. The housing of claim 7 wherein the housing, cover and end cap are molded from a thermoplastic elastomer.